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C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 001469

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CACEN, EUR/RPM AND EUR/ERA

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PBTS](#) [GG](#) [RS](#) [ZJ](#) [PL](#) [EUN](#) [OSCE](#)

SUBJECT: GEORGIA BORDER MONITORING ORGANIZATION AND THE EU:  
POLISH POSITION MIRRORS U.S. VIEWS

REF: (A) STATE 043096 (B) WARSAW 000708 (C) STATE 21669

Classified By: Political Counselor Mary Curtin, reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

1. (C) Pol-Mil Chief delivered Ref A demarche on the EU and Georgia Border Monitoring on March 14 to Mieczyslaw Kuzinski, Counselor in the Security Policy Department, who handles all security issues related to Georgia. Kuzinski responded on March 15, indicating that the GOP position on Border Monitoring closely mirrored that of the U.S. (as reported Ref B). He added that the Polish mission in Brussels would continue to advocate a robust approach in EU discussions.

2. (C) Specifically, Poland believes that it is essential to have an international presence on the Georgian border with the Chechen, Ingushetian and Dagestan Republics of the Russian Federation. The presence had to be mobile and large enough to cover this entire stretch of the border, and would require the necessary capabilities to provide accurate and objective reporting to the outside world. With the definitive end to OSCE border monitoring activities in Georgia, the GOP agreed that the European Union is best positioned to take over this role.

3. (C) According to Kuzinski, an EU fact-finding mission had recently returned from Georgia and reported that the situation on the border was "stable at present." The EU was currently considering three options for addressing Georgia border monitoring:

A. Per Ref A, a proposal for a small-scale EU training mission to improve the capabilities and skills of the Georgian Border Guards;

B. A separate proposal for a small "advisory group" on border issues based in Tbilisi to support the activities of EU Special Representative Talvitie;

C. A full scale EU Border Monitoring mission, along the lines of the now concluded OSCE BMO.

4. (C) Kuzinski said Poland was willing to support both Options A and B, but only as intermediate steps preparing the way for the full-scale Option C. Poland would not support the lesser options if they were intended to preclude or replace Option C. However, Kuzinski added that there was currently no consensus within the EU.

5. (C) In a separate meeting with PolCouns (septel), MFA Director for EU Affairs Pawel Swieboda essentially echoed Kuzinski's points. Swieboda did, however, add detail to Option C mentioned above. He indicated that the proposed "full-scale EU mission" would involve approximately 90 international monitors and 33 local monitors.

6. (C) COMMENT. Poland remains one of the strongest supporters of a robust international border monitoring presence in Georgia, and we can expect them to continue as vocal advocates in EU circles.  
Munter

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